



State of Louisiana

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

M. J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

MARK C. DRENNEN
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

NEWS RELEASE

November 28, 2001

Contact: Sarah Kracke
(225) 342-1038
skracke@doa.state.la.us

The Louisiana Technology Innovation Fund Awards Three Proposals

Baton Rouge — On November 15, 2001, the Louisiana Technology Innovation Fund Council considered three projects for funding. Presentations were made by the requesting agencies and all three were awarded funding for a total of \$2,381,900.00. The winning proposals were:

1) *Saving Lives and Enhancing Efficiency: Managing Medications and Medical Supplies*

Submitted By: LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport

Requested Funds: \$950,000.00

LSUHSC-Shreveport, LSUHSC Healthcare Services Division received funding for a medication and medical supply management project incorporating web-based wireless personal digital assistants (PDAs) and bar coding to provide medication and supply management services. Nurses will be able to scan a bar code on the patient's badge to log and receive information concerning the time and administration of prescribed medication and dosage. The PDA devices will use wireless local area network and automated dispensing devices at the LSUHSC-Shreveport facility. This medication and medical supply management project will save patient lives and improve patient care, create sustainable and measurable cost savings and reduce or re-allocate workforce. Potential beneficiaries will be over one million Louisiana residents who receive health care from the public hospital system.

2) *Mobile Data Terminals-Striving for Public Safety, Natural Resource Protection, Government Efficiency and Officer Safety*

Submitted By: Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Law Enforcement Division)

Requested Funds: \$1,000,000.00

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries received funding for a project that will utilize mobile data terminals (MDT) to increase efficiency and minimize geographical limitations of their field agent work force.

Essentially wireless devices, MDT's are portable units that can be used in the field for remote, real time service—giving officers the flexibility to address situations quickly with on-site resolution. Their portability and multifunctional use will improve and increase the current delivery of services to all Louisiana citizens as well as extend services to typically underserved citizens—those who live and work in remote, rural areas and on hard to reach waterways. The project includes approximately 60 officers/vehicles statewide and will implement a base foundation network.

3) *A Prototype Enterprise Application Hosting Service for the State of Louisiana*

Submitted By: LSU Ourso College of Business Administration with Division of Computing Services,
the College of Engineering and SAP America in collaboration with Southern University College of
Business, Tulane University, Productivity Point and St. Joseph's Academy of Baton Rouge

Requested Funds: \$431,900

The LSU School of Business proposal is for the implementation of a “centralized application-hosting center” at the LSU Baton Rouge campus to service Enterprise research and education initiatives. The request is to fund the hardware for the host operations at the LSU Center that would run enterprise applications and systems (i.e., SAP Software, Peoplesoft) donated by corporations and private organizations. The hosting center would serve as a testing and training environment for students seeking applied experience in using complex software. The LSU hosting center will operate as a not-for-profit organization and eventually become self-supporting through subscriptions. Ideally, small businesses with limited resources would ultimately use the hosting center as well. The mission of the center is to serve education, government, and business institutes in the State of Louisiana.

Says Governor Mike Foster, “The Technology Innovation Fund was created to support innovative projects and these are no exception. The Wildlife and Fisheries project will benefit the sportsman out in the swamps and I think that’s great.”

The Technology Innovation Fund was established by Act 481 of the 1997 Regular Legislative Session and is administered by the Commissioner of Administration. This “seed” money serves as an incentive to accelerate the implementation of electronic government and encourage state agencies to pursue innovative and creative approaches using technology. “The TIF is truly an innovative funding source,” said Commissioner Drennen, “and it’s available to any agency wishing to develop and provide novel solutions for e-government.”

Essentially an internal venture capital fund, it allows agency technology innovators an opportunity to compete for dollars on a year round, ongoing basis. Chad McGee, acting CIO and TIF Council chairman is pleased with the recent round of awards. “We’re seeing agencies take advantage of proven technology in unproven fields and it’s an exciting approach.” To date, approximately \$12 million in funding has been awarded. Past projects include the Louisiana E-Mall, a digital library of the New Orleans’ Ogden Museum of Southern Art’s collection and DHH/LSUMC telemedicine health care services for developmentally disabled citizens. For more information about eligibility, proposal criteria, past recipients and deadlines for submitting proposals, visit www.state.la.us/ltif/.

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